

**TOWN OF SEVEN DEVILS
TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING**

April 12, 2016

The Seven Devils Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, April 12, 2016, at Town Hall. Present were Mayor Larry Fontaine, Mayor Pro Tem Brad Lambert, Council Members Kay Ehlinger, David Hooper and David Ehmig. Also present were Town Attorney Rob Angle and Town Manager Debbie Powers. The minutes were recorded by Sara Miller, Town Clerk.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Fontaine called the meeting to order at 5:36PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council members and citizens recited the Pledge of Allegiance

ADOPT AGENDA

Member Ehmig made a motion to adopt the agenda. Member Hooper seconded the motion. The members agreed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

ADOPT MINUTES OF REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING—March 8, 2016

ADOPT MINUTES OF TOWN COUNCIL RETREAT—March 17, 2016

Member Ehlinger made a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda. Member Ehmig seconded the motion. The members agreed unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Kay Lambert, 430 Wildcat Rocks Rd., reminded everyone that SafetyFest would be held on Saturday, July 2, 2016. She stated that SafetyFest was in need of new craft booths, to spread the word. Forms to apply for a booth would be with the Town Clerk.

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

Mayor Fontaine gave a brief update on the possible Realtor Open House at Seven Devils. He stated that it was discussed at the Council Retreat, and the initial plan was to have an event in May for High Country realtors to visit Town Hall. He also stated that he would be meeting, along with Manager Powers and Anne Fontaine, chair of the Recreation Commission, with several realtors that belong to the High Country Realtor's Association on April 13th. He hoped to have another update by the next Town Council meeting.

Manager Powers gave a summary of the administrative update. She stated that the Connect NC Bond package was approved as of the recent election. She hoped to have the specifics by mid-June as to what Seven Devils could apply for.

Mayor Fontaine stated that the Blue Ridge Conservancy just purchased four parcels of land, three of which were in the Town of Seven Devils, to preserve as natural park area. He also stated that this was great news for the Town, as it would not have to worry about future development along that ridge. Manager Powers stated that it was 231 acres in total, and could mean future trails and greenspace for the Town.

Manager Powers stated that the 2010 Police Department Explorer sold on GovDeals for \$9,157.00 and was already picked up by the buyer. She announced that there would be a HCMA meeting on Thursday, April 14, 2016 at 6:00PM at Beech Mountain.

The new Telemetry system was complete and the final steps were some adjustments to make the digital screen more user friendly. The system will text Public Works Director Kevin Aldridge and the system maintenance company when there is an issue.

Manager Powers announced that the first Budget workshop would be on Thursday, April 21, 2016 at 9:00AM. Mayor Pro Tem Lambert stated that he would not be able to attend the

workshop if it were on the 21st. Mayor Fontaine suggested moving the workshop to Wednesday, April 20. The Council members all agreed on moving the Budget workshop to April 20, 2016 at 9:00AM.

The Public Works department had been working hard on several improvement projects. Manager Powers stated that they had replaced two rotting and dangerous bridges along the Otter Falls trail, and that they had replaced old posts on Autumn View Lane with reflectors. Thank you Public Works!

Manager Powers announced that the second month FitBit challenge winner was Finance Officer Helga Sappington, with 447,008 steps. The stepping continues for one more month!

OLD BUSINESS—NONE

NEW BUSINESS—NONE

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning Board—No Meeting

Public Works

Public Safety Committee

Recreation Commission—No Meeting—Mayor Pro Tem Lambert suggested that the Town Council schedule a Public Hearing on the proposed Master Recreation Plan for the next Town Council meeting in May. The Council agreed to hold a Public Hearing on May 10th at 5:00PM before the regular Town Council meeting, to receive public input on the proposed Master Recreation Plan.

TDA

ABC Board

Public Safety Department

Police Report

Fire Report

Financial Report

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Member Hooper gave a brief update on his public WiFi project. He stated that he had not received much feedback from communities he had reached out to. He also stated that the Town of Maiden should be sending him additional information on their Town public WiFi. Several Towns have public WiFi, but the WiFi is only available in certain areas, such as downtown areas. He stated that he would keep reporting to the Council as information became available to him.

RECESS

Mayor Pro Tem Lambert made a motion to recess to the Town Council Budget Workshop on Wednesday, April 20, 2016 at 9:00AM. Member Ehmig seconded the motion. The members agreed unanimously. The meeting recessed at 6:10PM.

Larry Fontaine, Mayor

Sara Miller, Town Clerk